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Fortifications between Op'a-ri (125-38, 39-20) and Sunan (125-41, 39-12)

1. Op'a-ri is a communications center between Sinanju and P'yongyang; Sunan is an important point for controlling communications lines and is about 2 kilometers east of the railway and some 15 kilometers south of Op'a-ri. Defensive fortifications have been constructed on the slopes of the hills west of the railway between Op'a-ri and Sunan, where trees are scarce. These fortifications have stone walls about 2 meters thick which are surfaced with cement. Each one is surrounded by a semi-circular barrier about 3 meters thick. These fortifications have been built halfway up the mountain slopes and about 250 meters apart. They can be used as prepared positions for heavy weapons. Anti-aircraft gun positions have been prepared along the ridge of these mountains. Fortifications have also been built from the foot of the mountains westward to a line about 5 kilometers from the railway. These fortifications are from 200-300 meters apart and have walls of stone and reinforced concrete over 1 meter thick. The fortifications are about 2 meters below the surface and rise about 2 meters above the ground. They face straight south and have loopholes on either side. Openings have been built in the rear of these fortifications which will permit vehicles and armored cars to enter them. The largest ones can hold heavy tanks or heavy artillery. They are all camouflaged with grass. Communications trenches and machine gun positions have been constructed in the area between these fortifications. The fortifications can be seen easily, and those on the mountain slopes look like small houses.

Defenses between Hyöphung-ni (125-36, 39-30) and Sukch'ön (125-37, 39-34)

2. The railway line between Hyŏphŭng-ni (which is about 20 kilometers south of

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Sinanju) and Sukch'on, which are about 15 kilometers apart, is on level ground; consequently fortifications have not been constructed here. Defenses consisting of obstacles and trenches to prevent the passage of tanks and other vehicles have been built on both sides of the railway and extend about 5 kilometers from the tracks. These trenches run from east to west and are about 1,000 meters long. The trenches are spaced from 500-1,000 meters apart. Most of them are 8 meters deep and 12 meters wide. They are covered with poles, dirt and grass. Each trench has about 2 meters of water or mud at the bottom to catch vehicles which fall into it. Machine gun positions or light artillery positions have been built between these trenches. Such trenches have not been dug close to the railway line, but many obstacles have been constructed in this area. This area is also mined, and mines are buried about 1 meter deep and the surface is camouflaged to conceal any revealing indications.

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